***To Kill a Mockingbird* Exam ll-Take Home Essay**

Directions: Write an in-depth, analytical response to the below essay question. Remember to use TEXTUAL EVIDENCE to support your writing. Likewise, you will lose points if you do not follow proper MLA stylistic procedures. I want this typed, double spaced, font 12, and at LEAST two full pages.

During various times in the novel, the mockingbird and its symbolic representation is mentioned. According to Miss Maudie, to kill a Mockingbird is a sin or crime, because they are beautiful creatures that harm nothing and no one. Thus, the symbolic reference is the destruction of innocence and goodness by corruption, ill intentions, and/or evil.

Taking into consideration the characters of both Boo Radley and Tom Robinson, explain how they are representations of "mockingbirds" in this novel. Below are some points that you may want to consider:

* Boo's isolation from the outside world by his father and if such a tactic was deserved.
* Boo's attempt to connect to individuals through the knothole and the shattering of this connection by filling it with cement.
* Boo's less than favorable reputation amongst his Maycomb neighbors. Is such a reputation deserved?
* How exposing Boo as Bob Ewell's killer would be like killing a mockingbird.
* The framing of Tom by both Bob and Mayella Ewell.
* How most of the people of Maycomb view Tom after the accusations (even though they no doubt know that he's innocent)-Scout's teacher Ms. Gates, Mrs. Merriweather, the Mob at the jail, etc.
* What sending Tom to jail did to his spirit and faith.
* Tom's senseless death and how he died.
* How Tom's death will affect his wife and children who are likewise innocent victims of The Ewell's lies.